

Common Core Academy Locations

Week I: June 13 - 16 Moab Vernal

Week 2: June 20 - 23 Alpine Provo Cache/Logan

Week 3: June 27 - 30 St. George Cedar City Richfield

Week 4: July 5-8 Davis Ogden

Week 5: July 11 - 14 SLC: Granite SLC: Jordan SLC: Canyons

Week 6: July 18 - 21 Park City

Common Core Academy 2011

In the summer of 2011, the Utah State Office of Education provided professional development on the new Utah Common Core Academies to over 4,300 educators across the state. Content was focused on supporting implementation of the new Utah Common Core in English Language Arts K-12 and Utah Common Core for sixth grade mathematics and Secondary I.

Members of the Teaching and Learning staff put in over 5,000 hours to provide Common Core Academies at 14 different sites over a 6 week period.

Participants spent the first three days of the Academy working on grade specific tasks to familiarize themselves with the Utah Common Core. On the fourth day, school and district administrators were invited to the Academy to learn more about the Utah Common Core and were offered the chance to collaborate with their teachers on how they can work together to implement the Utah Common Core in their schools

The facilitators used daily feedback from participants to adjust and re-design each session; responding to the needs of the participants as adult learners.

The four most challenging aspects of the CCSS were identified as:

- 1. Student Assessment as Performance Tasks
- 2. Argumentative Writing
- 3. Lesson Re-Design
- 4. Text-Complexity

Common Core Academy Follow Up

- ♦ 200 Teachers involved in an online book study
- Resources and materials posted online
 - Secondary ELA http://utahcommoncoresecondarylessons.com/
 - Math 6 http://cca6summer2011.wikispaces.com/
 - Math 9 http://eucc2011.wikispaces.com/
- Facilitators providing ongoing professional development



English Language Arts

"You have helped me get so excited about teaching this year! Thanks for all the wonderful ideas and information."

"The most valuable part of the academy for me was seeing ways to write in other content areas. [I loved the] actual, hands on, concrete examples of how to implement aspects of the core."

"The academy changed my negative/unsure concept into 'can-do' excitement."

"It was so valuable to get the mind set of knowing I can implement writing in kindergarten. My time was so well spent during these past four days."

"The most valuable part for me was learning how to use writing with the science and social studies core."

"I have been impressed with the organization of the training. Someone has gone great lengths to think of all the pitfalls, fears, and hesitations of changing over to the common core and tried to eliminate as many problems as possible."



"I especially liked the administrators being there on the last day for a forum discussion. I have been teaching for 25 years and I have never seen any program this well introduced, coordinated, and carried out. These facilitators were absolutely amazing."

"I have been to lots of core academies and this was, by far, the best experience I have ever had. I enjoyed being treated as a professional adult learner instead of a child. The facilitators' depth of knowledge about teaching and language arts subject matter was astonishing. They always had logical and well-formulated answers to our questions."

"I learned what I need to know to start implementing the common core standards in my classroom next year. I am extremely appreciative of the facilitators and their level of commitment and preparation."

Mathematics

"I love that we are increasing expectations for students."

"Mathematics concepts are as important (if not more than) mathematical procedures."

"Exciting that our students will be benefiting from a comprehensive, cohesive curriculum. This bodes well for our future."

"It was very useful to see how to change tasks to increase the cognitive demand and challenge students to think."

"I appreciated having time to discuss with other teachers how to use the

core in my classroom."

"This is great! I can do this and I'm so glad to be doing something that requires me to always be learning."

"This workshop was very helpful even if it will force me out of my comfort zone. I know it will make me a better teacher and benefit my students."

"This is a very valuable approach it forces thought centered around how we teach and what level we teach."

"This week has been frustrating at times, but overall it has been very helpful. The 'it' for me is that the Common Core is not just a list of standards, but a way of helping students understand, make connections and be mathematicians."



